

# on the Record, @Online

News about South Carolina's state and local government records management  
from the South Carolina Department of Archives & History

Volume 8 ♦ Number 1 ♦ September, 2009

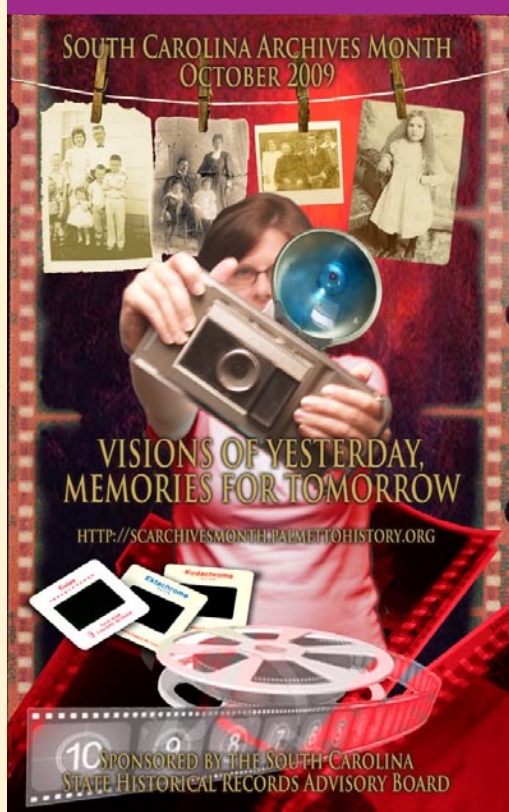
For publications and further information about our services to  
state and local governments, check our [WEB](#) page.

## New Director Named to SC Department of Archives and History



Dr. W. Eric Emerson of Charleston has been named by the SC Archives and History Commission as the new director of the SC Department of Archives and History, succeeding Dr. Rodger E. Stroup. Dr. Emerson began his new duties in early August. He was most recently director of the Charleston Library Society and a former director of the South Carolina Historical Society. Dr. Emerson holds a Ph.D. in history from the University of Alabama, and is the author of *Sons of Privilege: The Charleston Light Dragoons in the Civil War*, published by USC Press in 2005. He has also served as editor of the South Carolina Historical Magazine, and served on the SC State

Historical Records Advisory Board and the board of the South Carolina Hall of Fame. [Click here](#) for an article from *The State* newspaper.



## Get Ready for Archives Month

October is Archives Month in South Carolina and much of the nation. [Click here](#) to find out what is planned and how you may get involved. For further information, contact [Heather South](#).

## Nominations Sought for SC SHRAB Awards

The SC State Historical Records Advisory Board is seeking nominations for its Governor's Archives Award and Awards of Merit. The Deadline for nominations is December 4, 2009. For details on the awards and nominations process, [follow this link](#).



South Carolina Public Records Association

## SCPRA Conference

The SC Public Records Association will hold its annual conference at the SC Archives and History Center, October 22-23. Be sure to attend and take advantage of the opportunity to learn more about records management and network with others in South Carolina state agencies and local governments. [Click here](#) for the conference program.

## Grants Awarded to Local Governments

The State Historical Records Advisory Board (SC SHRAB) recently awarded grants to four local governments for historical records preservation and access. Listed below are descriptions of the projects with the names and e-mail addresses of the project directors. For a complete list of SC SHRAB regrant awards, [click here](#).

**Florence County Probate Court:** To microfilm Estate Papers, 1925-1959, and to pay for half the cost of a microfilm reader-printer. Amount awarded: \$10,000. Project Contact: [Kenneth Eaton](#)

**Hampton County:** To microfilm Treasurer's Tax Duplicates, 1921-1960, and pay half of the cost of a fireproof storage cabinet. Amount awarded: \$7,150. Project Contact: [Paula Bishop](#)

**Richland County:** To microfilm Deed Books from 1865-1959 for which existing microfilm is of poor quality, selecting books most in need of filming. Also funds to purchase acid-free boxes for storing original volumes. Amount awarded: \$4,875. Project Contact: [Richard Rodden](#)

**Cultural and Heritage Commission of York County:** Funds to microfilm Common Pleas Judgment Rolls, 1840-1869, and purchase archival boxes and folders for originals. Amount awarded: \$3,559. Project Contact: [Nancy Sambets](#)

## Civil War Symposium

The Archives is co-sponsoring the twelfth annual Civil War Symposium, September 18-19. [Follow this link](#) for details.

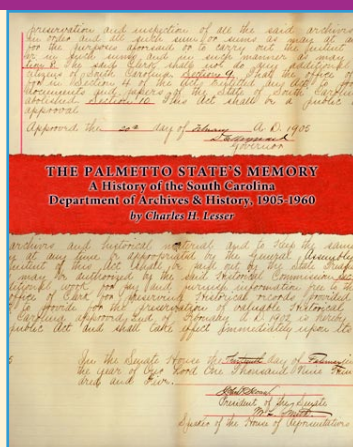


## Archives' FY 2009 Accessions Report

The Archives transferred nearly 250 cubic feet or more than a half-million pages of historical records from thirty-eight state agencies and four local governments for storage at the SC Archives and History Center during the past fiscal year. [Follow this link](#) for a list of the records accessioned.

## A History of the SC Department of Archives and History

The Archives and History Department recently published *The Palmetto State's Memory: A History of the South Carolina Department of Archives and History, 1905-1960*, written by long-time archivist Charles H. Lesser. This detailed history of the first half century of the Department of Archives and History features an epic battle between South Carolina's first archivist, Alexander Samuel Salley, Jr., and professional historians in the state. Salley served for forty-four years until he was forced to retire against his will at age 78 in 1949. For many years he labored alone to rescue one of the nation's best sets of colonial and state government records. His successor, J. Harold Easterby, modernized the department. A brief epilogue covers the department's more recent history. The 120-page paperback sells for \$10 in the department's giftshop and through the department's [website](#).



Heather South provides basic archival care training to an eager group of learners

## Local Government Workshops

Three two-hour workshop sessions on archival issues and practices for local governments are scheduled at the following locations in September:

**September 2:** Columbia

**September 9:** Charleston

**September 17:** Greenville

For location and registration information, [click here](#).

## Reporting Records Destruction: Make it Part of Your Routine

Here is something to keep in mind: The most important part of implementing records retention schedules issued by the SC Department of Archives and History (SCDAH) is completing and submitting to the SCDAH a **Report on Records Destroyed** form. Not only do the submitted forms help us measure the impact of our records retention program, but they help ensure that state agency and local government personnel adequately document authorized disposals of government records.

## News from the Wider World

**“New Technique Promises Billion Year Storage,”** *Wired*, June 1, 2009  
[www.wired.com/gadgetlab/2009/06/billion-year-data-storage/](http://www.wired.com/gadgetlab/2009/06/billion-year-data-storage/)

### Lowcountry Digital Library

<http://lowcountrydigital.library.cofc.edu/>

### E-Mail Preservation Parser

<http://siarchives.si.edu/cerp/parserdownload.htm>

**“Ten Ways to Make Twitter A Useful Communication Channel,”** *eWeek.com*, July 28, 2009  
[www.eweek.com/c/a/Messaging-and-Collaboration/10-Ways-to-Make-Twitter-a-Useful-Government-Communication-Channel-355012/](http://www.eweek.com/c/a/Messaging-and-Collaboration/10-Ways-to-Make-Twitter-a-Useful-Government-Communication-Channel-355012/)



## State Agency Recognition for State Records Center (SRC) Staff

The Department of Corrections (DoC) recently recognized Archives SRC staff with certificates of appreciation for their “commitment to excellence and outstanding dedication and service.” Left to right: Nneka Campbell and Darlene Harmon (DoC), Colt Lyles and David McKeown (SRC), and Pamela Vaughan and Brenda Gaskins (DoC)

## A Final Word

Another fiscal year and, as Yogi Berra said, it’s déjà vu all over again . . . so far. Last year at this time we waited on a budget cut, so we are again. We can only hope that there are not a series of reductions like those that rounded out FY 2009. Like most South Carolina agencies and local governments, the Archives has moved beyond tinkering and trimming to drastically scaling back and eliminating services and functions. The cuts are now affecting mandated and mission-critical services and functions. We are fortunate to have federal funds for our participation in the [multi-state electronic records project](#) and to make [digitized images](#) of historical records available on our website. Likewise, we are all fortunate to have a great organization like SCPRA to carry on promoting and supporting records management in state agencies and local governments. Considering the deepening state fiscal crisis, SCPRA will hold the 2009 annual conference in Columbia rather than its usual Myrtle Beach location. Be sure to take advantage of this great educational and networking opportunity. Though it is much less expensive this year, the conference is still packed with high quality and timely sessions. Be sure to [register](#)!

Roy H. Tryon, CA, CRM  
State Archivist and Records Administrator



## Links

### **New Director**

[www.thestate.com/local/story/871476.html](http://www.thestate.com/local/story/871476.html)

### **Archives Month**

<http://scarchivesmonth.palmettohistory.org/>

### **SHRAB Award Nominations**

[www.state.sc.us/scdah/shrab/2010shrabawards.htm](http://www.state.sc.us/scdah/shrab/2010shrabawards.htm)

### **SCPRA Conference**

[www.scpa.org/files/scprabro.pdf](http://www.scpa.org/files/scprabro.pdf)

### **Local Government Grants**

[www.state.sc.us/scdah/shrab/2009regrantawards.htm](http://www.state.sc.us/scdah/shrab/2009regrantawards.htm)

### **Civil War Symposium**

<http://civilwarsymposium.palmettohistory.org/>

### **FY 2009 Accessions Report**

[www.state.sc.us/scdah/0809rptannual.pdf](http://www.state.sc.us/scdah/0809rptannual.pdf)

### ***A History of the SC Department of Archives & History***

<http://scdah.sc.gov/publications/>

### **Local Government Workshops**

[www.state.sc.us/scdah/shrab/2009regrant/2009regrantWorkshops.htm](http://www.state.sc.us/scdah/shrab/2009regrant/2009regrantWorkshops.htm)

### **Reporting Records Destruction**

<http://arm.scdah.sc.gov/NR/rdonlyres/CDED9481-5AE1-4175-9B9D-6E0E11C43590/0/arm11.doc>

### **News from the Wider World**

[www.wired.com/gadgetlab/2009/06/billion-year-data-storage/](http://www.wired.com/gadgetlab/2009/06/billion-year-data-storage/)

<http://lowcountrydigital.library.cofc.edu/>

<http://siarchives.si.edu/serp/parserdownload.htm>

[www.eweek.com/c/a/Messaging-and-Collaboration/10-Ways-to-Make-Twitter-a-Useful-Government-Communication-Channel-355012/](http://www.eweek.com/c/a/Messaging-and-Collaboration/10-Ways-to-Make-Twitter-a-Useful-Government-Communication-Channel-355012/)

### **A Final Word**

<http://arm.scdah.sc.gov/erp/grants.htm>

<http://archives.sc.gov/digital.htm>

[www.scpa.org/files/scprabro.pdf](http://www.scpa.org/files/scprabro.pdf)